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Beacon Light: February 1958

St. Cloud Hospital

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BEACON LIGHT

Volume IX Number 6

SAINT CLOUD HOSPITAL

February, 1958



SAINT CLOUD HOSPITAL

SCHOOL

OF

NURSING

50th
ANNIVERSARY
1908
to
1958



PRAYER AND WORK

Bishop Sheen tells us that a well-regulated life does not defer prayer until work has been accomplished; it turns the work into prayer! We accomplish this when we turn to God at the beginning and completion of each task and mentally offer it up for love of Him. Then, whether we are caring for a sick patient or welding a pipe, washing dishes or running an elevator, the task is sanctified. No amount of piety in leisure hours can compensate for slipshod labor on the job. But, any honest task well done, can be turned into prayer.

Work is a moral duty and not, as many people imagine, a mere physical necessity. St. Paul said, "The man who refuses to work must be left to starve." When work is seen as a moral duty, it is apparent that it not only contributes to man's social good, but it also prevents idleness from which many evils can arise and it keeps his body in subjection to the reasoned will.

Too often we fail to see the sense of "vocation" in our work -- we see only a job. The blame is usually placed on the complexity of our economic system, but again Bishop Sheen helps us out. He says the blame should be put on "a collapse of our spiritual values". God Himself worked when He made the world and then, viewing it, He called it "good". Work can and must be a source of spiritual merit --- undertaken not merely for the sake of economic gain, but to project the creative power of God through our own human effort.

MEDICAL STAFF

The following are the officers of the Medical Staff of the St. Cloud Hospital for the year 1958:



Dr. L. A. Veranth.....Chief of Staff
Dr. C. J. Luckemeyer...Vice-President
Dr. R. J. Cesnik.....Secretary
Dr. J. P. O'Keefe.....President-Elect

The doctors listed above together with the Past-President, Dr. L. M. Evans, Dr. E. J. Schmitz, and Dr. C. S. Donaldson constitute the Executive Committee, the liaison group between the medical staff and the administration of the hospital.

Chiefs of Services

Chief of Medicine.....Dr. H. E. Sisk
Chief of Surgery.....Dr. C. B. Thuringer
Chief of Anesthesia.....Dr. M. K. Kim
Chief of Obstetrics.....Dr. R. T. Petersen
Chief of Pediatrics.....Dr. W. A. Autrey
Chief of EENT.....Dr. J. B. Gaida
Chief of Orthopedics.....Dr. E. M. LaFond
Chief of Radiology.....Dr. E. M. Anderson
Chief of Laboratories.....Dr. A. E. Davis

Pharmacy Committee

Dr. K. A. Walfred
Dr. J. P. O'Keefe
Dr. H. M. Broker
Dr. C. S. Donaldson
Dr. T. G. Murn

Credentials Committee

Dr. L. H. Bendix
Dr. R. B. Mueller

Tissue Committee

Dr. J. B. Beuning (1957-1959)
Dr. H. E. Sisk (1957-1959)
Dr. P. L. Halenbeck (1958-1960)
Dr. C. J. Luckemeyer(1956-1958)
Dr. L. A. Veranth (1956-1958)
Dr. A. E. Davis (Ex Officio)
Dr. L. A. Veranth (Ex Officio)

Surgical Privileges Committee

For a term ending in Dec.1958
Dr. E. N. Milhaupt
Dr. C. B. Thuringer
Dr. C. F. Brigham

Intern Committee

Dr. E. M. Anderson
Dr. E. M. LaFond
Dr. E. J. Schmitz
Dr. L. A. Veranth
Dr. O. C. Phares
Dr. W. A. Autrey

For a term ending in Dec.1959
Dr. K. A. Walfred
Dr. C. S. Donaldson
Dr. H. B. Clark

For a term ending in Dec.1960
Dr. R. N. Jones
Dr. J. B. Beuning
Dr. L. A. Veranth

HOSPITALS EMPLOY 1.3 MILLION

Hospitals in the United States today employ an estimated 1.3 million persons, more than many of the country's major industries. The Department of Labor estimates that slightly more than half the hospital's 1.3 million employees are employed in private hospitals, both non-profit and proprietary.

As compared to other "industries", hospitals employ more persons than steel, which has about 650,000 employees, and the automobile industry which employs between 800,000 and 900,000 persons.

The Labor Department in a survey of employment conditions in private hospitals in 16 metropolitan areas across the country came up with some interesting findings. The period covered 1956-1957 payrolls.

. . . In the areas surveyed, almost one-fourth of all employees in private hospitals were professional nurses and other professional and technical persons. One-tenth were office clerical workers. Practical nurses, nurse aides, and other non-professional workers accounted for about half the workers. The remainder was composed of other occupational groups including those involved in hospital administration.

. . . Directors of nursing were the highest paid workers in most cities surveyed. Pay ranged from about 50 to 100% more than general duty nurses. Male x-ray technicians were second in pay rates in most cities, according to the survey. Then followed nursing supervisors and instructors, women medical social workers, medical record librarians, staff dietitians, physical therapists, head nurses, and medical technologists, in that order. Usually women x-ray technicians were the lowest paid of professional and technical workers studied, although general duty nurses were lowest in some areas.

Among the 16 metropolitan areas surveyed, San Francisco stood first in terms of average pay for most occupations. Its pay levels for women nurses, however, were equalled by levels in Chicago. Salaries of general duty nurses in San Francisco and Chicago averaged \$72 a week. In Philadelphia they averaged \$56.50.

Differences in earnings between women general duty nurses and women practical nurses varied from 25% in Boston, Minneapolis-St. Paul, and San Francisco to about 75% in St. Louis. The survey also showed that variations between salaries of these two groups amounted to 30 to 60% of practical nurses' earnings in half the areas. Women practical nurses, on the other hand, earned about 20 to 40% more than nurse aides.

The Labor Department also reported that the survey revealed "striking inter-city differences" in differentials in earnings as between the lowest paid non-professional jobs and the professional and technical jobs. This spread was narrowest on the west coast and in Minneapolis-St. Paul.

St. Scholastica ~ ~ ~ Feb. 10

What do you know about this saint? It is very possible that you may never have heard of her, especially if you joined our "hospital family" only within the past year and are not from this immediate area.

St. Scholastica was the twin sister of St. Benedict who lived in the sixth century and who wrote a Rule which, with some modifications for time and place, is being followed today. St. Scholastica, with the help of her brother, founded a religious community for women known as the Sisters of Saint Benedict. The St. Cloud Hospital is operated by the Sisters of St. Benedict.

More than one hundred years ago, the first Benedictine Sisters came to the United States from Eichstatt, Bavaria,

and settled in Pennsylvania. In 1857, a few Sisters came to St. Joseph, Minnesota where they established the Convent of Saint Benedict, which is today the largest Benedictine Convent in the world. The Sisters tried to satisfy the most urgent needs of the time and place. Schools were established; but besides teaching, the Sisters cared for churches, trained choirs, instructed altar boys and cared for the sick.

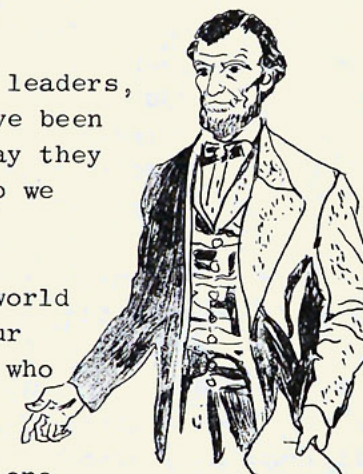
St. Benedict devotes an entire chapter of his rule to the care of the sick. He writes: "Before and above all things, care must be taken of the sick that they be served in very truth as Christ is served". It is in this spirit that each of us as members of a Benedictine Hospital Family must care for those who come to us in time of need!

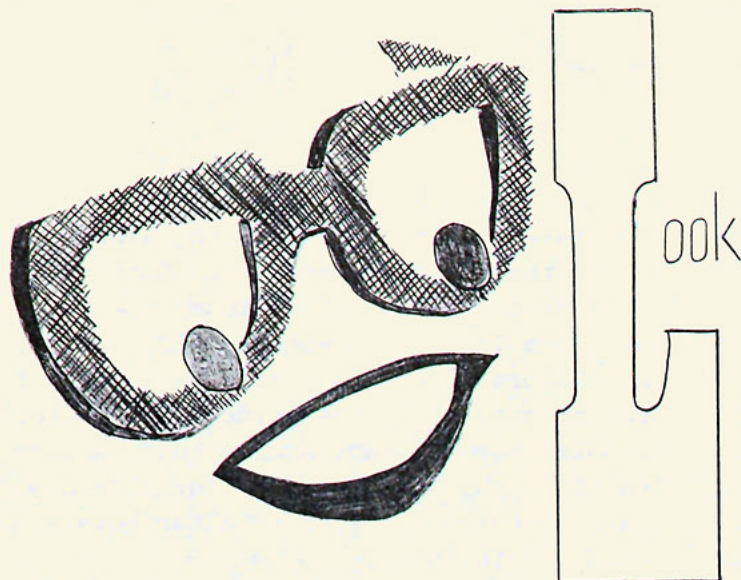
During February we celebrate the birthdays of two great leaders, ABRAHAM LINCOLN and GEORGE WASHINGTON. We know them to have been heroic men. They had genuine love for their country; we say they were great patriots. Do we have patriotism? If so, how do we show it?

We can render a real service to our country and to the world by praying each day for divine guidance and strength for our President, for Congress and for those who legislate for us:

Almighty and everlasting God, Who alone workest great wonders, pour down upon Thy servants and upon the flocks committed to their charge the spirit of Thy saving grace, and that they may truly please Thee, pour down upon them the continual dew of Thy blessing. Through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

(Prayer for those in authority and for those under their charge.)





at the bright side

YOU don't want Gloomy Gus, the pessimist, as a friend; he takes all the joy out of life. Neither do you want him as a supervisor; he's so sure you won't do anything right that all his directions are scoldings. And you certainly don't want him as a co-worker; his "what's the use" attitude inevitably destroys morale.

Because habitual pessimism is a handicap in personal relations, and because a person may not realize that he suffers from it, you ought to

check up on yourself. Have you the reputation of looking on the dark side of things? Do your co-workers discount your advice, saying, "You never admit an idea is good". Do acquaintances leave you out of the fun? Do you continually harp on conditions you don't like? Do you associate only with people who share your prejudices?

Of course, the pessimist is often right. But weighing possibilities is a lot different from letting one's judgment be blinded by looking only at the black side of the picture.

First of all, if you think you are a pessimist, ask yourself if you would really prefer to be cheerful. Do you want to be like the people you know who, out of their optimism for the future, plan constructively? Or are you sufficiently content with the carping critics to be one yourself? If you want to change, here are some pointers:

Learn to control your tongue. When you are most sure that your supervisor is diving to destruction, keep your mouth shut or talk about something else. . .

Think back a month or year. What were you sure then was going to go wrong? Has it? Keep a diary of your present forebodings. Read it a month later, and you will laugh at yourself. . .

Make a deliberate effort to recognize good in people and affairs. If you praise something or somebody every day, you go a long way to offset the reputation and the feeling of pessimism.



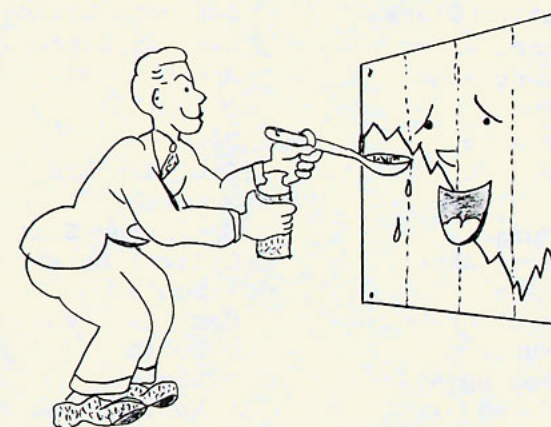
WHAT IS A HOSPITAL?

A hospital is one thing for the patient, another for the friend or relative visiting him.

A hospital is things you remember --- the long corridors, the silence, a thermometer, back-rub, a trip to the x-ray department, pills taken every three hours, fresh flowers. . . .

But before a hospital is all or any of these things, A HOSPITAL IS PEOPLE. It's a nurse feeling your pulse, a doctor making his daily rounds. It's an obstetrician slapping a newborn infant into life, a surgeon quietly probing for a swollen appendix.

A hospital is a lot of people working together to save lives, to make sick people well and keep healthy people healthy. A hospital is a team in a game where no one sits on the bench and everyone -- doctor, nurse, technician, dietitian, housekeeper, engineer, laundry worker, elevator operator, receptionist -- has a job to do.



FOR MANAGEMENT. . .

A harried business executive went to his physician to get a prescription for sleeping pills, only to find that he was allergic to sedatives.

"What about some of this twilight sleep I've read about?" he asked the doctor.

"Oh, that's only for labor" was the reply.

"Good heavens!" exclaimed the executive, "Haven't you anything for management?"

LOWER DEATH RATE

The death rate from pneumonia, influenza and tuberculosis has dropped about 90% since 1900 in the United States, Health Information Foundation reports. The improvement is attributed to medical advances, particularly new drugs, and to better living conditions.

YOU

YOUR HEART -- No pump as perfect if you treat it right.

YOUR EYES -- No camera can touch them for efficiency. YOUR NERVOUS SYSTEM --- No telegraph system can equal it.

YOUR VOICE AND EARS-- Better than any radio built. YOUR NOSE, LUNGS AND SKIN-- There isn't a ventilating system as wonderful.

YOUR SPINAL CORD --- The most complete switchboard for giving instantaneous warning and reactions.

Such a marvelous, complicated mechanism as YOU is worthy of your highest respect and best care. Protect yourself, in whatever work you are doing in the hospital, wherever you are. Observe your safety rules. Heed the warning signs. Don't take shortcuts..... YOU are your own best safety device!



Flower: PRIMROSE



Birthstone: AMETHYST

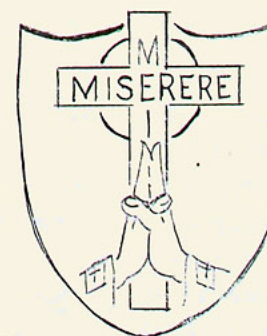
Imagination that is at times prophetic is the gift of persons born in February....they are witty, congenial and very prudent....slow to anger but not vindictive....are versatile and industrious.

To the following employees born during the month of February we extend BIRTHDAY GREETINGS! Let us ask God to bless them:

Mrs. Patricia Kremer	Staff Nurse	5 North
Carol Bettenberg	Staff Nurse	3 South
Mrs. Mildred Rice	Department Aide	Physical Therapy
Mrs. Eva Pearson	Staff Nurse	Delivery Room
Mrs. Dorothy Hoffman	Staff Nurse	2 South
Janet Stein	Staff Nurse	3 South
Martha Schmidt	Staff Nurse	5 South
Mrs. Barbara Schrupp	Lab. Technician	Laboratory
Margaret Thielen	Nurse Aide	1 South
Casper Stein	Elevator Operator	Gen. Maintenance
Mrs. Helen Kruchten	Cashier	Business Office
Janet Kirscht	Staff Nurse	3 North
Mrs. Hilma Wilberg	Staff Nurse	Nursery
Diane Krausert	Housekeeping Aide	3 South
Catherine Massmann	Department Aide	Laundry
Mrs. JoAnne Keech	Information Clerk	Business Office
Mrs. Rose Ruf	Department Aide	Central Linen
Janet Kulzer	Department Aide	Anesthesia
Mrs. Genelle Edberg	Staff Nurse	3 South
Lucy Ann Brinkmann	Dietary Aide	Bakery
Mrs. Regina Moran	Dietary Aide	Diet Kitchen
Mary Schik	LPN	3 North
Betty Blattner	Staff Nurse	Operating Suite
Mrs. Doris Steineke	Department Aide	Central Service
Mrs. Rose Wenner	Nurse Aide	1 South
Nicholas Binsfeld	Foreman of Grounds	Gen. Maintenance
Mrs. Ione McKibben	Staff Nurse	2 North
Alverna Blonigen	Housekeeping Aide	2 South
Mrs. Constance Scepianiak	Staff Nurse	5 North
Bernice Zimmerman	Head Nurse	Recovery Room
Corrine Hessing	Staff Nurse	2 North
Leona Bormes	Nurse Aide	4 South
Mrs. Elsie Waletzko	Medical Secretary	X-Ray
Mrs. Mary Ann Rice	Information Clerk	Business Office
Dorothy Buckeye	Staff Nurse	Operating Suite
Mrs. Alice Freeburg	Ward Clerk	3 North
Mrs. Patricia Lydeen	Staff Nurse	Nursery
Mrs. Maude Lepinski	Receptionist	Lobby
Janice Paulsen	Clinical Instructor	Nursing School
Bernelda Roering	Dietary Aide	Diet Kitchen
Edward Hill	Orderly	4 North
Alverna Dolenshek	Nurse Aide	5 North
Mrs. Anna Lease	Nurse Aide	2 South
Mary Ann Goebel	Housekeeping Aide	5 North
Norene Jung	Staff Nurse	2 North
Irene LaSota	Med. Technologist	Laboratory
Mrs. Marcie Kloempken	LPN	Float

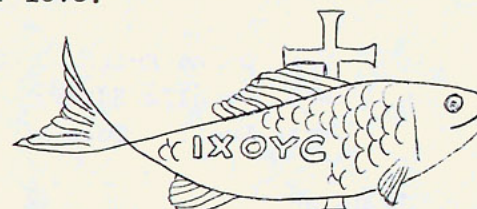


LENT is a period of penance motivated by love for God, and our attitude toward it is determined largely by where we place the stress: on the penance or on the love. For those who view the Holy Season primarily as a time of mortification and "giving-up" things, Lent will no doubt be an unwelcome occasion. But for those who find in Lent the opportunity to atone to God for the sins they themselves have committed and confessed as well as for those of the godless people of the world, the 40 days to Holy Saturday will pass all too quickly.



If throughout the Holy Season of Lent we are overly conscious of the penance and the fasting, we will have difficulty not feeling sorry for ourselves; but if we accentuate the love which should underlie our practice of mortification, that sorrow will be directed to the Crucified Christ, denied or ignored by many of the creatures who were made to know, love and serve Him. We are all capable of loving; and for the person loved we will sacrifice and suffer.

The 40 days of Lent will come and go. Without penance they will be wasted days; with penance alone they will seem long and trying; but with penance motivated by love, they will prove days that draw us closer to God---closer to Him Who is all good and worthy of all our love.



MODERN REFLECTIONS

WASTEBASKETS

Someone has remarked that we live in the age of paper. Whatever else our age may go down in history for, it is certainly true that we are in an age in which paper has come into its own. Modern life calls for a lot of paper work. No business can exist without using quantities of paper for records, for mailing purposes, for wrapping, for just about everything. We use paper towels, paper napkins, paper tissues in place of handkerchiefs. Paper has come to substitute for cloth and wood, to be used in most ingenious ways.

The paper industry itself is a big one, and on it depend other industries.

With all our paper, much of it finds itself on the way out via the familiar wastebasket. Much of our mail is junk mail that gets tossed unceremoniously into the wastebasket. Much of the paper produced has a short life indeed, and is summarily chucked into the nearest wastebasket.

If wastebaskets could talk, they could relate tales of joy and sadness, moments of high achievement and, alas, dismal failure. Much of a struggling writer's efforts ends up in his own or in an unsympathetic publisher's wastebasket.

Wastebaskets exist because paper is to be discarded. Unimportant paper---it must go. Nobody feels bad that it is thrown away.

Suppose we ourselves and our lives should be as so much slightly used, discarded waste paper? No. We are not destined for the incinerator. We are worthwhile, like a valuable manuscript. We must maintain our dignity as children of God, and not find ourselves cast out into the wastebasket of life. God will keep us if we keep Him.

...reprinted

WHO'S RESPONSIBLE FOR SAFETY?

Conditions surrounding accidents involving patients, or members of the hospital staff, for the most part indicate that some one person, or group of persons was responsible for the accidents.

A study of the cause and effect of an accident invariably proves that carelessness, apathy or indifference on the part of individuals or a team of hospital personnel working together, was responsible for the accident.

Lapses in good safety practices are costly in more ways than imaginable, and implications of an accident are widespread, involving the hospital, its personnel, and those persons directly affected.

Responsibility for eliminating accidents rests with every member of the hospital organization, when functioning independently or with a group. Either way, don't take safety for granted. Keep alert when working alone, and more especially when working as a team, where one member may be depending upon the others to carry out a responsibility, and that other person may be you.

Welcome!

Several new employees joined our hospital staff during the past month. We hope they will enjoy their days of employment here at the hospital.

Mrs. Louise Borgert
Mrs. Lorraine Picard
Miss Delores Rakotz

Ruth Ann Goenner
Miss Judith Marsh
Mrs. Doralyn Foster

Mrs. Donna Smith
Mrs. Genelle Edberg
Mrs. Lucille Cota

Mrs. Dorothy Sommers
Mrs. Joan Mason
Miss Vera Kunkel
Miss Agnes Grant

Mrs. Mary Jo Reich
Mrs. Sylvia Olson
Mrs. Alice Theisen
Mrs. Ferne Herman

40 & 8

The 40 & 8 Voiture in St. Cloud presented scholarships to students in the St. Cloud Hospital School of Nursing on February 3. Recipients were Patricia McLaughlin and Carol Jean Prom. Patricia is a second year student and a graduate of Wahpeton High School, Wahpeton, North Dakota; Carol Jean is a first year student and a graduate of Cathedral High School, St. Cloud, Minnesota.

CONGRATULATIONS

to the following
alumnae and former
employees on the birth of
new sons or daughters:



Mrs. William Wehr (Joan Gross)
Mrs. Thomas Lynch (Yvonne Jurek)
Mrs. Paul Hardwig (Kathleen Kost)
Mrs. Thomas Brown (Mary Lou Larson)
Mrs. Harvey Obermiller (Lehanna Behrens)

MEETINGS

IN JANUARY. Sister Roger and Sister Danile attended the Central Service Supervisors' Conference Group Meeting at St. John's Hospital, St. Paul. Dependence of nursing personnel and department workers on the C.S. Department was analyzed and the opinion of the group was that orientation to the operations and functions of equipment was essential to better nursing care. New trends in patient care are disposable needles, syringes and catheters.

. . . January 20-24 the Institute for Nurse Anesthetists in Omaha, Nebraska was attended by Sister Virgene. Besides the lectures which were given by Doctors, Anesthesiologists and Nurse Anesthetists, the visits to several of Omaha's hospitals was a very profitable experience for her.

. . . Sister Jean, MARLENE REITER and ERVIN SMITH attended the Executive Meeting of the Minnesota Society of X-Ray Technicians at which St. Cloud lost the opportunity of being named Convention City for 1958 by one vote. New Ulm must have had one more representative!

FEBRUARY. . . Sister Glenore attended the Program of Continuing Education for Registered Dietitians Feb. 5-9, at the President Hotel, Kansas City, Mo. The program was made possible by a grant from the Kellogg Foundation and was sponsored by the Catholic Hospital Assn. The theme developed by all speakers was that the hospital exists for the patient and no part of the hospital is a unit in itself.

. . . Sister Keith spent February 5th and 6th gathering helpful pointers on analyzing and solving problems relative to nursing service. "The Case Method for Problem Solving in Nursing Service Administration" was sponsored by the School of Nursing, University of Minn. and was held at the Continuation Study Center.

. . . JAMES TROBEC, Sister DeLellis and Sister Marmion were enlightened on "Practical applications to everyday hospital problems" presented in the form of a panel discussion when the Minnesota Chapter of American Association of Hospital Accountants met for their Quarterly meeting on February 14th at St. Mary's Hospital, Minneapolis.

. . . . Sister Francis Xavier, President Elect of the Minnesota Hospital Assn., attended the Midyear Conference of the Officers of State and Regional Hospital Associations, Feb. 7 & 8, at the Palmer House in Chicago. This conference provided an opportunity for association representatives to discuss programs and problems of mutual interest, and to obtain up-to-date information about activities affecting the entire hospital field. While in Chicago, Sister also attended the First Congress on Administration sponsored by the American College of Hospital Administrators Feb. 9-11. The program focused attention on what is newest in management practices.

Gems of Wisdom. . .

A ship in harbor is safe but that is not why ships are built.

Definition of a farmer: A man who is out-standing in his field.

The Beacon Light is the monthly publication for employees of the St. Cloud Hospital, St. Cloud, Minnesota



SNOWFLAKE MIRACLES



Snowflakes work miracles. As they fall, ugliness disappears. Isn't that true of life, too? The ugly things of life--hate, envy, suspicion, fear, gloom--disappear when they are buried beneath the "snowflakes" of love, courage, joy, and faith in God.

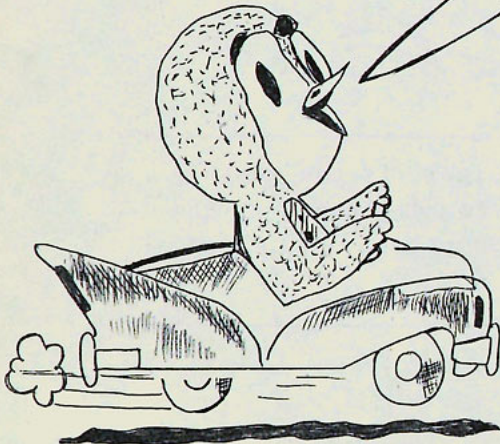
THOUGHT FOR THE DAY . . .

We have not succeeded in solving all of our problems. Indeed we sometimes feel we have not completely solved any of them! The problems we have solved only serve to raise a whole set of new problems. In some ways we feel as confused as ever but we believe we are confused on a higher level and about more important things.

"I have been a patient in your hospital several times and always received the very best care. However, a couple of weeks ago, my daughter, Becky, was there for a tonsilectomy and this was the first real opportunity I have had to observe the things that go on outside a hospital room: The friendliness of all those at the main desk and the offices....The cafeteria and dining rooms in the basement for the convenience of those who watch and wait....A nurse down on the floor playing with lonesome little children in a very well equipped playroom.....A nurse walking down the hall hand-in-hand with a little child, giving him the TLC he needs...A nurse, going from room to room, calling the little ones by name as she makes her routine checks.....And another nurse holding a small baby as she patiently and lovingly feeds him his dinner.

Although my daughter's stay at this time was short and not serious, I know that if at any time either of my children should require hospitalization, they could receive no better care anywhere than they would receive in your hospital."

. . . Mrs. T.R.



BECAUSE PARKING IN THE
DRIVEWAY IS NEVER
PERMITTED.

Non-adherence to this
regulation creates a
definite hazard and the

person responsible for such must consider himself a transgressor.

The parking space directly in front of the hospital is reserved for EMERGENCY PARKING ONLY. Employees who drive cars to work are to park either in the parking lot or on the street. We are counting on your cooperation both in adhering to this regulation and in making it known to your friends.